

THE SPECULATIVE MARKETS.

General Weakness Succeeds the Firmness of Yesterday in All Lines.

WHEAT SLUGGISH AND UNRESPONSIVE.

Corn, Oats and Provisions Featureless and Little Changed—Cattle Demoralized and Hogs Active—Financial.

CHICAGO, Dec. 10.—(Special Telegram to THE BEE)—There was less force to the markets on change early than for many days. It was a little remarkable that nearly everything on the floor started at the closing prices of Tuesday. In trading for the first hour wheat was firm, with a narrow range of prices, corn weakened 1¢ from the best figure after the opening, and in the provision pit pork held steady, with ribs and lard somewhat easier. May wheat sold at 85¢ to 86¢, 90¢ to 91¢, 85¢ to 86¢, 86¢ to 87¢, 87¢ to 88¢, 88¢ to 89¢, 89¢ to 90¢, 90¢ to 91¢. Oats were steady and firm at 85¢ to 86¢, May pork, \$1.25¢ and \$1.25¢, lard, 64¢ to 65¢, and ribs 85¢ to 86¢.

Bulls could not readily understand why May wheat did not sell up to \$1.00 today. As it was, the advance stopped at 90¢ over the close last night and 90¢ over the opening figure. The greater part of the news for the day was bullish, and one or two excellent bull points were recorded. To begin with public and private cables from firm and quiet futures to bid advanced at Liverpool; receipts in the northwest were moderate; primary receipts were 510,000 bushels against 621,000 a year ago; Indiana sent reports of dry weather and Hessian fly damage; Bradstreet's gave a decrease of 107,000 bushels in available supplies east of the Rockies. On top of this there were excellent export clearances. Again, trade did not have to oppose Hutchinson, for he was a buyer here and at New York. The market closed at 89¢ to 90¢, a slight increase in the wheat acreage in Kansas of 75,000 acres, the failure of a small stock house at New York and liberal selling by Pardridge. The market was at the best a sluggish one and responded slowly to any sort of news. May opened when it closed, 88¢ to 89¢, touched 90¢ at 89¢ to 90¢, 90¢ to 91¢, to 91¢ to 92¢ at 1 o'clock. There was a return of strength in wheat before the close. Minneapolis reported good sales of flour for export, and the market closed at 89¢ to 90¢. It is available to us at extremes or the other, the market might have closed at top prices. May closed at 89¢ to 90¢ over last night; December sold at 89¢ to 90¢ at 90¢ at the close. January sold at 91¢ to 92¢, to 92¢, to 93¢ to close.

The action in May corn was all within 1¢ up to 1 o'clock. This was about in proportion with the changes in wheat, which were limited to 1¢. The market opened where it closed, 89¢ to 90¢, up to 91¢ to 92¢, 92¢ to 93¢, 93¢ to 94¢, 94¢ to 95¢, 95¢ to 96¢, 96¢ to 97¢, 97¢ to 98¢, 98¢ to 99¢, 99¢ to 100¢, 100¢ to 101¢ to 102¢. There was a return of strength in wheat before the close. Minneapolis reported good sales of flour for export, and the market closed at 89¢ to 90¢. It is available to us at extremes or the other, the market might have closed at top prices. May closed at 89¢ to 90¢ over last night; December sold at 89¢ to 90¢ at 90¢ at the close. January sold at 91¢ to 92¢, to 92¢, to 93¢ to close.

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There was no new feature in the oats trade. Mr. Hutchinson gave the market little, but a large, at one time by buying, but trade was in a sort of rut and flat.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 10.—A steady market under May caused early months to be quoted.

Oats—Steady; cash, 43¢; January, 43¢; May, 46¢.

Rye—Steady. At 73¢ to 75¢.

Timothy—31¢.

Fax—31¢.

Wheat—14¢.

Pork—Steady; cash, 85¢; January, 80¢ to 85¢.

Lard—Steady; cash, 85¢; January, 85¢ to 87¢.

Short Ribs—Steady; cash, 85¢ to 87¢; January, 85¢ to 87¢.

Flour—Steady and unchanged; winter patent, 85¢ to 87¢; spring patents, 84¢ to 85¢; bakers, \$1.03 to \$1.04.

Bulk Meats—Shoulder, \$1.02 to 1.02; short rib, \$1.02 to 1.02; shoulder, \$1.02 to 1.02.

Butters—Unchanged; creamery, 23¢ to 25¢; dairy, 17¢ to 20¢.

Cheese—Unchanged; full cream cheddars, 40¢ to 42¢; butts, 38¢ to 40¢; Young Americans, 38¢ to 40¢.

Eggs—Unchanged; fresh, 23¢ to 24¢; heavy and light green salted, 33¢ to 34¢; dry salted, 33¢ to 34¢; dry runny, 32¢ to 33¢; old runny, 31¢ to 32¢; old packed, 44¢ to 45¢.

Flour—2 to 3, 23¢ to 25¢; cake, 4¢ to 5¢.

Receipts, Shipments, Pairs, etc., 4¢ to 5¢.

Flour, butts, 33¢ to 35¢.

Wheat, butts, 33¢ to 35¢.

Corn, butts, 33¢ to 35¢.

Oats, butts, 33¢ to 35¢.

NEW YORK, Dec. 10.—Wheat—Receipts, 67,800 bushels; exports, 97,300; spot, higher; No. 2 red, 103¢; in elevator, 103¢; all others, 104¢ to 105¢; in storage, 104¢ to 105¢; in warehouse, 104¢ to 105¢; in boat; ungraded mixed, 64¢ to 66¢. Options open strong and higher; closed easy; December, 104¢ to 105¢; January, 104¢ to 105¢; February, 104¢ to 105¢; March, 104¢ to 105¢; April, 104¢ to 105¢; May, 104¢ to 105¢; June, 104¢ to 105¢; July, 104¢ to 105¢; August, 104¢ to 105¢; September, 104¢ to 105¢; October, 104¢ to 105¢; November, 104¢ to 105¢; December, 104¢ to 105¢; January, 104¢ to 105¢; February, 104¢ to 105¢; March, 104¢ to 105¢; April, 104¢ to 105¢; May, 104¢ to 105¢; June, 104¢ to 105¢; July, 104¢ to 105¢; August, 104¢ to 105¢; September, 104¢ to 105¢; October, 104¢ to 105¢; November, 104¢ to 105¢; December, 104¢ to 105¢; January, 104¢ to 105¢; February, 104¢ to 105¢; March, 104¢ to 105¢; April, 104¢ to 105¢; May, 104¢ to 105¢; June, 104¢ to 105¢; July, 104¢ to 105¢; August, 104¢ to 105¢; September, 104¢ to 105¢; October, 104¢ to 105¢; November, 104¢ to 105¢; December, 104¢ to 105¢; January, 104¢ to 105¢; February, 104¢ to 105¢; March, 104¢ to 105¢; April, 104¢ to 105¢; May, 104¢ to 105¢; June, 104¢ to 105¢; July, 104¢ to 105¢; 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